

***Via Electronic and 2<sup>nd</sup> Day Express Delivery***

September 15, 2003

Ms. Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary  
Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications And Energy  
Department of Telecommunications and Energy  
One South Station  
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

**RE: DTE 03-60, Proceeding by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy on its own Motion to Implement the Requirements of the Federal Communications Commission's Triennial Review Order Regarding Switching for Mass Market Customers**

Dear Ms. Cottrell:

Pursuant to the Department of Telecommunications and Energy's ("Department") August 26, 2003 *Vote and Order to Open Proceeding* in the matter referenced above, RNK, Inc. d/b/a RNK Telecom ("RNK") respectfully requests to participate in the Department's proceeding to implement the requirements of the Federal Communications Commission's Triennial Review Order Regarding Switching for Mass Market Customers. In support of its request for participation, RNK states as follows.

RNK Inc. D/B/A RNK Telecom ("RNK") is a registered Competitive Local Exchange Carrier ("CLEC") in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts offering residential and business telecommunications services via resale and its own facilities. Via its own facilities, RNK serves a variety of customers with a diverse telecommunications and non-telecommunications services and also serves enterprise customers using unbundled network elements, including unbundled switching, and would be harmed if impairment is not found.

UNEs are an effective and essential competitive entry vehicle for serving local exchange subscribers in Massachusetts and elsewhere. As such, and given the still developing competitive environment present in Massachusetts today, RNK believes that a more "granular" Investigation of UNE Switching for Mass Market customers is warranted and is in the interest of the citizens of the Commonwealth. To accept the Commission's findings without the state specific analysis that only the Department can properly conduct

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would be a disservice to the people of the Commonwealth and have further negative impact on a competition in an already hard-hit marketplace. Further, RNK will be impacted greatly by any decision the Department may make and RNK's interests might not be adequately protected in the absence of participation. At this time RNK has not fully assessed the extent to which it will participate in the proceedings. However, as a Massachusetts-based provider, as well as being locally owned and operated, RNK is positioned to offer a unique perspective to this proceeding.

Correspondence and communications regarding this matter should be directed to:

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Accordingly, for the reasons stated above, RNK respectfully requests that the Department allow it to participate in any investigation to determine whether to rebut the Commission's national finding of no impairment for unbundled switching.

Sincerely,

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